## Message Text

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**ACTION EUR-06** 

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FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1774

USDOC WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

**UNCLAS BUDAPEST 2175** 

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: BEXP, HU

SUBJ: AGRICULTURAL CHEMICAL TECHNICAL SALES SEMINAR

REF: A. STATE 161638 B. STATE 171120

## VIENNA FOR EWTC

- 1. EMBASSY HAS SPOKEN WITH INDUSTRY SPECIALISTS AT CHEMOLIMPEX AND ODON GAL, CENTRAL SECRETARY, FEDERATION OF TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES (MTESZ) CONCERNING SUBJECT SEMINAR. CHEMOLIMPEX, WHICH SOLE HUNGARIAN IMPORTER OF AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS, OF OPINION THAT EXCELLENT POSSIBILITIES EXIST FOR EXPANSION OF AMERICAN SHARE OF HUNGARIAN AGRICULTURAL CHEMICAL MARKET. PARTICULARLY PROMISING ARE POSSIBILITIES FOR INCREASED SALES OF PESTICIDES IN HUNGARY. HUNGARY PLANS TO USE \$100 MILLION WORTH OF PESTICIDES IN 1975, APPROXIMATELY HALF OF WHICH WILL BE IMPORTED FROM WESTERN COUNTRIES. OF THESE IMPORTS, 40 PERCENT WILL BE HERBICIDES, 30 PERCENT FUNGICIDES, AND 30 PERCENT INSECTICIDES.
- 2. ALHOUGH DIRECT PURCHASES FROM U.S. HAVE BEEN RATHER SMALL DUE TO HIGH HUNGARIAN RECIPROCAL TARIFF AGAINST U.S. ORIGIN PRODUCTS, CHEMOLIMPEX IMPORTED IN 1973 BETWEEN \$7 AND \$8 MILLION OF PESTICIDES FROM EUROPEAN SUBSIDIARIES OF AMERICAN CARBIDE, AMERICAN CYANIMID, UNCLASSIFIED

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DOW, ESSO, AND STOUFFER CHEMICAL IN 1973 AND ANTICIPATES

THAT THIS FIGURE WILL RISE TO BETWEEN \$10 AND \$12 MISSION IN 1975. NEVERTHELESS, GREAT MAJORITY OF AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS IMPORTED FOR HARD CURRENCY PROCURED FROM WEST GERMAN AND OTHER EUROPEAN FIRMS.

3. GAL INDICATED THAT MTESZ WILL BE VERY MUCH INTERESTED IN SPONSORING SUBJECT SEMINAR. SUGGEST PLANS BE MADE TO STAGE TWO DAYS OF SEMINAR AND AT LEAST ONE DAY OF SALES MEETINGS IN BUDAPEST DURING EITHER FIRST OR SECOND WEEKS OF MARCH. EMBASSY PLANS TO HOLD FURTHER MEETINGS WITH TECHNICAL EXPERTS TO OBTAIN MORE PRECISE INFORMATION AS TO WHICH AREAS WOULD BE OF GREATEST INTEREST LOCALLY. HOWEVER, IT IS UNLIKELY THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO SUPPLY SUCH DETAILED DATA PRIOR TO END OF CURRENT VACATION SEASON, SINCE COMPETENT OFFICIALS ARE CURRENTLY UNAVAILABLE. PEDERSEN

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